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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, EASTERN DIVISION
MICHAEL W. DOBBINS
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT

VARDON GOLF COMPANY INC.)

Plaintiff,)

v.)

KARSTEN MANUFACTURING)
CORPORATION)

Defendant.)

Civil Action No.

00C 7221

JUDGE KOCORAS

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

MAGISTRATE JUDGE KEYS

TGS
MPM
PFS
KAV
GFC
D. Alku
BB.

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Vardon Golf Company, Inc. ("Vardon") complains of Karsten Manufacturing Corporation ("Karsten"), as follows:

1. This is a claim for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35 of the United States Code. This Court has original jurisdiction over the subject matter of this claim under 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a). This Court also has original jurisdiction over the subject matter of these claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a), since the parties are citizens of different states, and the amount in controversy exceeds the sum of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.

2. Vardon is an Illinois corporation having a place of business at 1080 Nerge Road, Suite 205, Elk Grove Village, Illinois 6007.

3. Karsten is a corporation that has a regular and established place of

EXHIBIT E

business at 2201 Desert Cove, Phoenix, Arizona 85068.

4. Venue in this district is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1400(b) and 1391(c) since Karsten transacts business in this judicial district by selling golf clubs, including those that are the subject of this litigation, to customers within this judicial district and by conducting other business in this judicial district.

5. Vardon owns and has standing to sue for infringement of United States Letters Patent No. Re. 36,950 (the "'950 reissue patent") for "Golf Club Head With Increased Radius Of Gyration And Face Reinforcement". The Vardon '950 reissue patent, attached hereto as Exhibit A, was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 7, 2000.

6. Karsten has committed direct acts of infringement of the Vardon patents by manufacturing and selling golf clubs covered by the patent in suit. More specifically, Karsten's sale of the ISI Titanium drivers, TiSI Titanium drivers, Ti3 Fairway woods, i3 Fairway woods, and ISI Tour, Laminated Maple woods, infringe Claim 22 of the '950 reissue patent, as shown by Exhibit B. Further, assuming the decision of the Court finding no infringement of Claims 12-15 of Vardon's parent '941 patent is reversed, then Claims 12-21 of the '950 reissue patent are also infringed.

7. Karsten's infringement has injured Vardon and Vardon is entitled to recover damages adequate to compensate it for infringement of the Vardon '950 reissue patent.

8. Karsten's infringement has been willful. Karsten was notified by Vardon about its infringement of the parent patent, U.S. Patent No. 5,301,941, yet Karsten continues to manufacture and sell its infringing golf clubs despite its knowledge of the patent. Karsten's

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infringement of the '950 reissue patent, therefore, reflects a failure to affirmatively exercise due care with respect to Vardon's patent rights.

9. Karsten's infringement will continue to injure Vardon until this Court enters an injunction prohibiting further infringement and specifically enjoining further manufacture, use and sale of golf clubs comprising the inventions of the Vardon patents.

10. Vardon has complied with the statutory requirements for patent marking and/or notice pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 287.

DEMAND FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Vardon respectfully demands judgment against Karsten, its subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, servants, employees, attorneys and all persons in active concert or participation with them, and granting Vardon the following relief:

- a. A permanent injunction prohibiting Karsten from further acts of infringement of the Vardon '950 reissue patent;
- b. An award to Vardon of such damages as it shall prove at trial against Karsten, after a full accounting for all damages caused Vardon by Karsten, the damages to be no less than a reasonable royalty, together with prejudgment interest from the date infringement of the Vardon patents began;
- c. An award to Vardon of three times the amount of damages so determined, as provided for in 35 U.S.C. Section 284;
- d. A finding that this case is "exceptional," and, if so, an award to Vardon of its costs and reasonable attorneys' fees, as provided in 35 U.S.C. Section 285; and

- e. Such other and further relief as this Court or a jury may determine to be proper and just.

JURY DEMAND

Vardon demands a trial by jury on all issues triable by jury.

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